Parish Information

Office Hours
Tuesday to Thursday ........................................ 8:30am - 5:00pm
Friday ...................................................... 8:30am - 4:00pm
Saturday ................................................... 9:00am - 1:00pm

Confession Schedule
Saturday .................................................. 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Adoration Schedule
Mondays from 8:30am until 7:00pm Benediction
**No Adoration Monday December 25, 2017**

24 Hour Adoration Schedule
First Friday from 8:30am until Saturday morning at 8:00am

Mass Schedule
Weekend
Saturday Vigil .................................................. 5:00pm
Sunday ..................................................... 7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Weekday
Monday to Friday ................................. 6:30am and 8:00 am
*Monday, December 25, 2017 9am and 11am Masses*
Saturday .................................................. 8:00am

Childcare
Offered during Sunday Masses at 9am and 11am for children ages infant to 5yrs in our preschool area.

Parish Registration
First Sunday of the Month after 11am Mass in the north end of McCready Hall. The Parish Registration and Welcoming will be held on January 7, 2018.

Infant Baptisms
Held on the 3rd and 4th Sunday of each month. Parents must first attend baptismal preparation class held on the First Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Youth Annex. Please go to www.olmctempe.com/sacrament-baptism for more information and to fill out the registration form. Next Class will be January 3, 2018.

Saint Vincent De Paul Society
Food box, rental or utility assistance to those living within OLMC parish boundaries who qualify for assistance by calling 480.966.1974 between 9am to 11am Monday through Fridays. Sorry no walk ins.

Sacrament of the Sick
Please contact the parish office 480.967.8791 to arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick. For after hours assistance with the Sacrament of the Sick, please call the parish number for the after hours service number who will contact the appropriate person. Prayer Teams are also available for those seeking healing after 9am, 11am, and 5pm Masses on the first Sunday of each month.

Wedding Orientation
Held on the Second Sunday of each month except May. Couples please meet by the water fountain on the southeast side of the church immediately following the 11am Mass. This is the first step in the marriage preparation process and should be completed prior to setting wedding date. Next Orientation will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2018.
NAIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ….. DECEMBER 24, 2017

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR
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PAROCHIAL VICAR
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PRESCCHOOL DIRECTOR
Monica Ferrance
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PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, December 25, 2017
No Activities Scheduled

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
7:00pm WCA - S. Hall
7:00pm M12Step - Annex

Wednesday, December 27, 2017
7:00pm Meditation - Church
7:00pm SVdp - Annex West

Thursday, December 28, 2017
6:15pm CoAnon - Annex W.
6:30pm MCA - South Hall

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 25, 2017
Christmas Day *Special Times
9:00am Intentions of Priest
11:00am Intentions of Priest

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
6:30am Soul of Lillian Mancini
8:00am Soul of Barbara Wiktorski

Wednesday, December 27, 2017
6:30am Soul of Pauline Bruns
8:00am Soul of Pam Morales

Thursday, December 28, 2017
6:30am Souls of Henry & Anita Forner
8:00am Soul of Judy Bawcom

Friday, December 29, 2017
6:30am Souls of Keith & Mary Pierce
8:00am Soul of Marie McBroom

Saturday, December 30, 2017
8:00am Soul of Peggy Davern
5:00pm Soul of Lena Vernon

Sunday, December 31, 2017 New Years Eve
7:00am Soul of Bruce Wester
9:00am People of Mount Carmel Parish
11:00am Intentions of Sal Consiglio
5:00pm Soul of Mary Evans

Monday, January 1, 2017 New Years Day
9:00am Intentions of Priest

HOW TO PROCEED IF PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED BUT EMERGENCY SACRAMENT OF THE SICK OR FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE NEEDED….

OLMC has an After Hours Service in the case of an EMERGENCY to assist our parishioners. For Sacrament of the Sick, any hospital is assigned a Catholic Church to be on call and the hospital personal can call the Catholic Church that is assigned for this very reason. For funerals, after choosing the mortuary please have the director you are working with call our After Hours Service (most of the surrounding mortuaries have this number already and the service number is on our night voice mail). The mortuary or the medical personnel can then reach the On Call Personnel to assist your family with scheduling the funeral or the emergency anointing for your loved one.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Next Sunday, December 24, 2017
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Next Monday, December 25, 2017
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13
Lk 2:11/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/
Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:15-9, 14

Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab,
16c and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday, December 27, 2017
1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday, December 28, 2017
1 Jn 1:5-2/2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]
Mt 2:13-18

Friday, December 29, 2017
1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]
Lk 2:22-35

Saturday, December 30, 2017
1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]
Lk 2:36-40

Next Sunday, December 31, 2017
Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps
105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, [7a, 8a] or Ps 128:1-2,
3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col
3:12-13 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
The Sisters’ Corner...

More Christmas traditions to share with you! Jesus has come as a little child for us!!!

What a day to be joyful! With the lights in our home, the Christmas tree, the decorations inside the house, the supper with all our family, everything makes sense when we recognize that He is the light of the World that has come for us as THE Life, in the image of a little child, the Love himself.

Since we were little children, right at midnight or just before or after our Christmas dinner, and after going to Mass, we return home and say a prayer while we put the Child Jesus in the Nativity Scene. With joyful Christmas songs we celebrate that moment and give thanks to the Lord for all His blessings for our family and community.

Now that we live in community with our sisters, we like to have our Christmas Mass together, we have our time in prayer in Adoration to the Child Jesus as well as singing Christmas songs from our different countries. It’s a beautiful time for us to give thanks to the Lord for His love for each one of us individually and as a community.

We pray that the Lord Jesus continues to bless your family and for the grace for us to continue to be loved and converted by Him.

Merry Christmas!
siervasdelplantedios.org
facebook.com/siervasdelplantedios/

Bridges Youth Group

Bridges youth group will have a Holidays break.
We will return with our Bridges night on January 21st!
Enjoy with your family this Christmas season, celebrating His Presence into our lives!
God is with us!!

Grief Support

SESSIONS ON FRIDAY
1:00pm – 3:00pm and
6:00pm – 8:00pm
For more info, please contact Jan at: jflor209@gmail.com
Please visit the OLMC Coffee Shop Sunday Morning after the morning Masses. ALL proceeds benefit the Full Circle Program, a parish ministry at Mount Carmel that offers assistance for At Risk Kids and their families. For more information regarding assistance for your family contact AJ Creswell, at aj@olmctempe.com or please call 480.967.8791 to leave a message.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix
Safe Environment Office

Should you need renewal training it can be completed at www.safeenvironmenttraining.org. Select “My Obligations”. Enter your first name, last name and street address. You can make corrections to your profile (including your location and ministry you serve in) and then click “update information and continue.” The renewal training will take approximately 35 minutes. **Deadline is FAST approaching!**

The new video is: **Keeping The Promise Alive.** This program works best from a high-speed internet connection. Be sure to watch through the end of the credits so your profile is updated. Please contact the OLMC Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, Julie Gradillas 480.967.8791 ext. 228 or email her at julie@olmctempe.com if you encounter any difficulties.

Everyday Stewardship

“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” With those words our Blessed Mother Mary places her total trust in God. We are called to do the same, and this final Sunday of Lent is the time for us to do that, if we have not previously. Mary’s response to God is the same response we need to offer the Lord. It is most appropriate that we hear this message at this time and on this day.

This took much more trust in the Lord than we might imagine. Mary agreed to receive a pregnancy that would be seen as suspect in a culture which had a potential death penalty for adultery. Spiritually speaking, there are similarities between the Lord’s work in Mary and His work in all of us. Jesus lives within each of us spiritually. He lived in Mary not only spiritually but also physically.

Jesus was made visible to the world through Mary physically, but He should be made visible to the world through us as well. Who we are and how we relate to and treat others is a sign to the world of Who Jesus is and what a Christian is and should be. Are we showing the world what it means to be His disciple? Is there a better time than this to do so?

The entertainer and comedian Bob Hope once said, “My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?”
Today marks the end of the Advent season and the beginning of the Christmas season. We have lit four candles these past four weeks and now asked God to help us be present to our neighbors and friends. Now in the Christmas season we are called to be Christ in the flesh to our world. Let us pray...

God,

You became human through the obedience of a simple young woman named Mary. Mary is our model of faith. May we be as faithful to Your word as Mary was. Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to You. We ask this through the incarnate God, who comes to us again during this Christmas season. Amen.
Dear Friends,

Love, joy, and peace are words often associated with the infant in the manger in Bethlehem. But truth be told - the best way to describe him: subversive. His birth undercuts all worldly power and assumptions. Even at the moment of birth, there was “no room in the Inn,” and as C.S. Lewis often quipped, “God had to sneak clandestinely behind enemy lines.” This world would not receive this newborn King and has found ways to reject him ever since. The swaddled child was an immediate threat to the political order and an object of panic to the religious community. Herod wanted him dead; the Temple officials wouldn’t tolerate this version of a Messiah. From this point onward, Jesus turned the worldly powers on their heads, he subverted the old religions, and those who dared to follow him were hunted down as revolutionaries, disloyal citizens who threatened the status quo.

If you think that the birth of Christ no longer holds any subversive quality, just look around and see the many who are hostile to His Gospel. The proclamation of Jesus Christ can be just too much for so many. Just look around at all the Christmas cranks who cringe at the site of a manager or shriek when hearing the words: Merry Christmas.

This sweet child in the manger would, after all, grow and declare, “You are either for me or against me” and “he who does not gather with me, scatters.” His presence alone caused division. It has been that way ever since. He left His Church as His visible remaining presence among us, which puts humanity in the position to be either moving towards the Church or away from it. So if you are a Catholic who no longer is part of the Church, then you inevitably find yourself fighting to find ways to move away from the Church.

It’s worth taking a look at what and why we fight to stay away from the Church. For some the reasons are rather superficial: “I don’t like those people,” “they’re hypocrites,” “the Pastor is a scold,” “all they do is ask for money,” “I don’t get anything out of it,” or “I don’t need to go to Church to pray.” For others the resistance goes a little deeper: “too many rules to follow,” “after all, who is the Church to tell me how to live my life,” “to be a good person it doesn’t matter what you believe,” “being a good person is all that matters,” “it’s what’s in my heart that matters,” “I don’t hurt anyone.” Some of us will fight against the Church because she refuses to go along with a certain lifestyle or will not co-sign on immoral behavior, and yet others of us are intellectually constipated and refuse to see the harmony between faith and reason. Then there is the ultimate sleight of hand: “I’m spiritual, not religious.” Yet even these excuses reveal a heart and mind that is full of theological preconditions. The theological is as inescapable as the biological part of our nature. Whatever the rationalization for resistance to Christ and his Church, everyone who comes in contact with it needs to ask the fundamental question: Who is this Jesus?

Truth is that we all experience this resistance at different points in life. The challenge then is for us to step out of the black hole of our egoism and consider for a moment that we might not have all the answers. What is it that the child of Bethlehem proposes to us? He comes to us to both reveal and teach us the way of love. This love is a radical self-gift that seeks only the good of the other. It is best expressed in a life lived for the sake of the other. It is not a subjective love that only loves so that the other will love back. It is a participation in the self-giving Love of God. And by coming to know and love Christ, we find the way to authentically “love one another” and not just some gushy sweet sentiment we label as goodness.

This New Year offers us a new opportunity to get honest with ourselves and take a long loving look at our resistance, rebelliousness, or indifference to the Gospel message. It is simply too big and too significant to ignore.

If you have been avoiding Church or just wandered away or have real issues with the Church, her teaching, or her practice, I invite you to “Come Home” to where you belong. And maybe spend some time with us, take off the gloves and cease fighting and find the real reason for your resistance. The process is simple but not easy, but it is the way to peace.

Since that first Christmas morn, history has not softened the impact of the Child in the manger. He remains a flashpoint for all time. In our own historical moment the demarcation of those who are for and those who are against Christ is becoming crystal clear. Which side are you on? Are you all in?

So 2018, all 365 days, 52 weeks, 12 months and 525,600 minutes will be another opportunity to allow the Christ Child to show you where you really stand.

Love, Fr. John B.